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## Registered Sex Offender Charged with Rape, Sexually Assaulting Minors

A 28-year-old registered sex offender accused of rape and having unlawful sex with teenage girls has been charged today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Richie Esquivel Corvera (dob 9/23/87) of Whittier has been charged with four felonies in case VA141094: two counts of unlawful sexual intercourse and one count each of forcible rape — child victim over 14 years, and child molesting with a prior.

The defendant is scheduled to be arraigned this afternoon in Department 4 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Bellflower Branch. Prosecutors will ask that bail be set at \$425,000.

Deputy District Attorney Efrain Matthew Aceves, who is prosecuting the case, said on Oct. 8, 2015, the defendant reportedly struck up a conversation with a 16-year-old girl at a convenience store and offered to take her to a coffee shop.

Rather than take the girl to the shop, the defendant allegedly drove her to a motel, the prosecutor said. Although the girl did not want to go to the motel room, she eventually followed Corvera inside, according to the prosecutor. While in the room, the defendant allegedly raped the teen, the prosecutor said. The victim was able to escape from the room shortly thereafter.

On Jan. 19, Corvera allegedly followed a teenage girl as she walked home from school, the prosecutor said. The teen feared Corvera would kidnap her, so she told the defendant her father was almost home, at which point the defendant drove away, according to the prosecutor.

The next day, Corvera is alleged to have met a 15-year-old girl at a high school parking lot. The prosecutor said the defendant reportedly asked the girl to hang out with him and the teenager entered his vehicle. Corvera then allegedly took the girl to a motel and had sex with her, the prosecutor added.

On Jan. 21, Corvera met another teenage girl and reportedly offered to take her home, the prosecutor said. Instead of taking her home, the defendant drove the teen to a motel and is accused of having sex with her, according to the prosecutor.

If convicted as charged, Corvera faces a maximum possible sentence of 16 years and eight months in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Whittier Police Department.

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## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's</u> <u>Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.